

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW EAGLE FROM ALASKA AND
A NEW SQUIRREL FROM LOWER CALIFORNIA.

BY C. H. TOWNSEND.

The following very distinct forms are among the collections contributed by the writer to the U. S. National Museum between 1889 and 1895:

Haliaeetus leucocephalus alascanus new subspecies.

Subspecific characters.—Differing from *H. leucocephalus* in size, being considerably larger.

Habitat.—Alaska.

Type.—♂ (U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 151,567). Unalaska, Aleutian Islands, May 22, 1895. C. H. Townsend.

Dimensions of Type.—Wing, 23.75; tail, 11.50; tarsus, 4; culmen, 2.60; depth of bill, 1.50; hind claw, 1.50.

Comparative Measurements.

Locality.	Averages.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Bill.		Claw of hind toe.
					Length.	Depth.	
Florida.....	4 ad. ♂s.	21.12	10.43	3.40	2.43	1.27	1.50
Florida and Louisiana.....	3 " ♀s.	22.75	11.31	3.42	2.45	1.32	1.60
Aleutian Islands.	4 " ♂s.	23.81	11.56	4.18	2.50	1.40	1.62
" "	2 " ♀s.	24.62	12.00	3.75	2.62	1.50	1.75

In forty specimens examined from localities between Florida and Alaska there is a regular increase in size northward. Eagles from north-

ern States are larger than those from Florida and Louisiana. In addition to the other differences in size, the bill of the Alaskan bird is wider, while the edging to the feathers, especially on the wing coverts, is both lighter and broader. The egg of the northern bird is distinctly larger, the average of sixteen specimens being 73.5 x 57.5 mm., while that of forty-five Florida specimens is 69 x 53.5 mm.

***Sciurus hudsonius mearnsi* new subspecies.**

Sciurus hudsonius californicus Allen. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., III., 1890, pp. 165-167.

This form is characterized by extreme pallor of coloration and by having middle dorsal region tinged pale yellowish instead of reddish, as in specimens from central and northern California. A general hoariness pervades the entire upper surface; under surface pure white, without traces of annulation; under fur light plumbeous throughout. These specimens have a broad black lateral stripe. The ears are conspicuously tufted with long black hairs, while the top of the head is pale grayish instead of blackish, as in specimens from more northerly localities. Tail with lateral hairs very broadly tipped with white; median area of under side whitish gray, of upper side yellowish gray; terminal third black, fringed with white. Fore and hind feet yellowish white. One specimen (No. 18267, U. S. Nat. Mus.) has acquired the post-breeding pelage on the fore but not on the hind feet, the new hair being buff-yellow instead of soiled white. Specimens from the interior region of northern California are much darker, with distinctly more reddish upper tinge and less hoariness, while the under fur is decidedly darker plumbeous. Specimens of *S. hudsonius mogollonensis* and *S. hudsonius fremonti* have a more general reddish suffusion of the upper parts, and in winter much dusky vermiculation of the under surfaces, while the feet are nearly black and the ear tufts less pronounced.

S. hudsonius mogollonensis is considerably larger, the hind foot measuring 54 mm. in *mogollonensis* against 51 mm. in *mearnsi*; the skull 51 x 28.7 against 48.8 x 27.6.

Type No. $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{5}$ $\frac{2}{17}$ $\frac{6}{10}$, U. S. Nat. Mus., from San Pedro Martir Mountains, Lower California (altitude about 7,000 feet). Collected in May, 1889, by C. H. Townsend.

Named for Dr. Edgar A. Mearns, U. S. A., Naturalist of the Mexican Boundary Commission of 1892-'94.